



Patrick Henry Building (1.)



Pentagon Control Tower - Fire Day Station (2.)



# Report of the Executive Director

During the past month, the Executive Director took the following actions under the Commission's delegation authority. Unless otherwise noted, all projects are in Washington, DC.

1. Review for conformance of preliminary and final site and building plans with the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation (PADC) Plan and Square Guidelines for Security Upgrades and Streetscape Improvements at the Patrick Henry Building, 601 D Street, NW. (P8335)
2. Preliminary and final site and building plans for the Pentagon Control Tower - Fire Day Station, Mall Terrace, 1 North Rotary Road, Arlington, VA. (8099)
3. Preliminary and final building plans for the Building 386 Human Performance Training Center Addition, 10232 Burbeck Road, Fort Belvoir, VA. (8336)
4. Preliminary and final building plans for the Naval Support Activity Bethesda Building 9 East Entrance Renovation, 8950 R.B. Brown Drive, Bethesda, MD. (8318)

During the past month, NCPC staff determined that the following project is exempt from Commission review, based on certain criteria. Unless otherwise noted, all projects are in Washington, DC.

1. Comments to the Council of the District of Columbia for the Proposed Closing of a Public Alley in Square 4053 - S.O. 22-00410. (8335)

## Planning Updates

### Beyond Granite

NCPC staff continues to work with the Trust for the National Mall to prepare for the first *Beyond Granite* workshop scheduled for January 20-21, 2022 in Washington, DC. This workshop will convene steering committee members along with collaborating agencies. The workshop's goal is for attendees to review project process materials and begin to consider potential installation themes. The workshop will also identify potential jury members for the artist competition.

### DC Commemorative Works Committee

On December 17, staff presented the *Beyond Granite* Initiative to the DC Commemorative Works Committee (CWC). Preferred sites and permitting issues were discussed, along with the DC Commemorative Works Location Strategy and next steps. Staff will continue to involve and update the DC Office of Planning and members of the CWC on this project.

### Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

The Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative Executive Committee will meet in January to review three draft concept visions that each seek different ways to elevate the Avenue's role as a nationally significant venue, raise its profile, and contribute to the city's economy. Subsequently, NCPC staff will brief the Commission and request authorization in February to release the draft concepts for an extended public and stakeholder review and input period. NCPC staff also anticipates presenting to the U.S. Commissions of Fine Arts.



### Public Space Security

On December 16, staff met with the District Department of Transportation to discuss traffic safety around Farragut Square after another driver crashed onto the north side of Farragut Square. Stakeholders will continue to work together to provide solutions that make Farragut Square a safe and accessible public space. Staff also met with the DC Office of Planning (DCOP) to discuss the Streets for People Initiative, which launched this month and will provide funding for creative and innovative public space activations within the downtown area. Staff will work with DCOP to use the activation projects as a case study to examine security needs for activation of an “open” street (closed to cars) prototype.



### FY 2023-2028 Federal Capital Improvements Program

On December 17, the initial data call was opened for the FY2023-2028 Federal Capital Improvements Program. At the request of the Office of Management and Budget, this year’s program includes a couple of changes from previous programs, including new questions for applicants regarding their projects impacts’ on climate change/resiliency as well as equity impacts for adjacent underserved communities within the National Capital Region. The initial data call ends on February 11.



### Monumental Core Streetscape Guide and Manual

The Interagency Working Group met in December to finalize the Pedestrian Circulation guidelines. Staff will present the Draft Streetscape Design Guidelines for Vertical and Surface Elements at the February 2022 Commission meeting and request release for a 90-day public review and comment period. Staff will present the guidelines to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts in February or March.

### Regional Plans and Projects

Staff reviewed and provided comments on the Public Hearing Draft of the Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan for Silver Spring, MD. NCPC supports the plan’s goals on diversity, connectivity, resiliency, and community health, as well as the recommendations around transportation infrastructure and the proposed Green Loop that focus on connectivity.



NCPC staff provided a technical analysis and federal interest comments to the Arlington County Community Planning, Housing, & Development Department on the Crystal City Building Height Study and the 2025 Clarendon Boulevard redevelopment project proposal. The 2025 Clarendon Boulevard site is subject to a 1982 Arlington County Board resolution on views from the National Mall (“Resolution of Concern Regarding Building Heights Related to the National Capital Mall Axis”). NCPC staff comments primarily addressed potential impacts on views from the primary east-west vista and primary north-south vista from the National Mall to the Western Horizon as identified in the [Technical Addendum to the Urban Design Element](#).



### Interagency Security Committee Quarterly Meeting

On December 7, 2021, NCPC staff participated in the Interagency Security Committee quarterly meeting. The interagency discussed the 2021 Design-Basis Threat Report, federal mobile workplace update convergence, NASA’s integrated security strategy, and planning and response to an active shooter guide. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2022.



## Public Outreach

### Equity Action Plan

In response to Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, NCPC submitted its draft Equity Action Plan to the Office of Management and Budget, and is currently responding to their comments prior to submitting the plan formally on January 20, 2022. The plan identifies several areas where NCPC will focus on incorporating equity considerations into its work activities.

### January 27 Speaker Event

On January 27, 2022, **Dr. Elizabeth Rule** will provide an online public presentation exploring the current and past presence of Native Americans in the Washington, DC region. She is the Assistant Professor of Critical Race, Gender and Culture Studies at American University, and an enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation. More information is available at [www.ncpc.gov](http://www.ncpc.gov).



### Design Arlington Award Program

Senior Urban Planner **Meghan Dowker** participated on the [DESIGNArlington](http://www.ncpc.gov) Award Jury, Arlington County's biennial design awards program for great design in architectural, historic preservation, landscape and public art projects.



### Blog: Catalyzing America's Clean Energy Economy Through Federal Sustainability

**President Biden** set ambitious goals for the federal government to help accelerate America's transition to clean energy and sustainable technologies. Communications and Research Support Specialist **Bsrat Mezghebe** highlights details from his executive order to assist federal agencies achieve these goals. Read the blog at <https://www.ncpc.gov/news/item/164/>.



### Blog: Do you Know What a Legation Is?

Following the December meeting discussion about potential sites for the Texas Legation Memorial, Communications and Research Support Specialist **Bsrat Mezghebe** investigated this relic of diplomatic history. Her discoveries are online at: <https://www.ncpc.gov/news/item/165/>